

3627<sup>3</sup><sub>BT</sub>  
5-19-03



PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Re: Attorney Docket No. 1038.002

In re application of: Christopher R. Hall and Joseph L. Welsh

Serial No: 09/911,041

Art Unit: 3627

Filed: 07/23/01

Examiner: Robert Paul Olszewski

For: Method and System for Enabling Workers to Communicate  
Anonymously With Their Employers

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

**RECEIVED**

MAY 12 2003

**GROUP 3600**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

In accordance with 37 CFR § 1.56, this is an Information Disclosure Statement (IDS) for the above-captioned U.S. patent application. An IDS Form PTO-1449 listing references is enclosed herewith and forms a part hereof.

**Certification Under 37 CFR § 1.704(d)**

- [ ] Each item of information contained in this statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart application and this communication was not received by any individual designated in § 1.56(c) more than thirty days prior to the filing of this statement.

**Certification Under 37 CFR § 1.97(e)**

- [X] Each item of information contained in this statement was either (1) cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this statement or (2) not known to any individual designated in § 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this statement.

\* \* \* \* \*

**Certification Under 37 CFR 1.8**

Date of Deposit 5/5/03

I hereby certify that this paper or fee is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail under 37 CFR 1.8 on the date indicated above and is addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

Gerry Marrero  
(Name of person mailing)

Gerry Marrero  
(Signature of person mailing)

Fee Under 37 CFR § 1.97(c)

- ☐ The fee for submission of an IDS under § 1.97(c) of \$180.00 set forth in § 1.17(p) accompanies this statement.

Petition Under 37 CFR § 1.97(d)

- ☐ This is a petition requesting consideration of an IDS under § 1.97(d). The petition fee of \$130.00 set forth in § 1.17(i)(1) accompanies this petition.

Provision of Copies of References

- ☒ A copy of each of the listed references is enclosed herewith and forms a part hereof.
- ☐ A translation of each of Reference(s) \_\_\_ is enclosed herewith and forms a part hereof.
- ☐ A copy of the International Search Report from a corresponding PCT application is enclosed herewith.
- ☐ The above-captioned U.S. patent application is a
- ☐ continuation
  - ☐ divisional
  - ☐ continuation-in-part
- application of U.S. application serial number \_\_\_, filed on \_\_\_ as Attorney Docket No. \_\_\_\_\_. Each of the listed references was previously cited by or submitted to the Office in the prior application. The above-captioned U.S. patent application relies upon the prior application for an earlier filing date under 35 U.S.C. 120. Pursuant to § 1.98(d), copies of the listed references are not being provided with this IDS.

Authorization To Charge Deposit Account

- ☒ Authorization is given to charge Deposit Account 50-0782 for any fee deficiency under § 1.97(c) and § 1.17(p).

It is respectfully requested that the Examiner initial and return a copy of the enclosed PTO-1449 form as confirmation that each of the documents has been considered.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: 5/5/03  
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Enclosures

FORM PTO-1449 U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
(Rev. 2-32) PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

ATTY. DOCKET NO.

SERIAL NO.

1038.002  
APPLICANT

09/911,041

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE  
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(Use several sheets if necessary)

Christopher R. Hall and Joseph L. Welsh  
FILING DATE

GROUP

07/23/01

3627

## U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	BA	5,884,272	03/1999	Walker et al.	705	1	
	BB	5,818,836	10/1998	DuVal	370	389	
	BC	5,963,626	10/1999	Nabkel	379	142	
	BD	US 6,195,426 B1	02/2001	Bolduc et al.	379	266	

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**GROUP 3600**

## FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION YES NO
	BE	WO 99/09490	02/1999	PCT			
	BF	JP410126823A	05/1998	Japan			

## OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)


EXAMINER	DATE CONSIDERED
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EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

(Form PTO-1449)